



# Trends, disruptors and the circular economy

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**Institute for Sustainable Futures**  
isf.uts.edu.au

EIANZ Conference  
Friday 2 Nov 2018  
Sydney

# Institute for Sustainable Futures

ISF partners with government, industry and community to address complex sustainability challenges through transdisciplinary research.

55 Research Staff  
45 PhD students  
150+ projects per year



## **RESOURCE FUTURES**

Advancing responsible and efficient production and consumption by fostering stewardship and circular resource flows

## **WATER FUTURES**

Developing restorative, sustainable and resilient water management solutions



## **LANDSCAPES & ECOSYSTEMS**

Enhancing ecosystem integrity and livelihoods by incorporating perceptions, values and practices into decision-making



## **ENERGY FUTURES**

Accelerating the transition to more decentralised energy systems that are clean, affordable, reliable and empower communities



## **CLIMATE CHANGE & ADAPTATION**

Helping partners adapt to the challenges of a changing climate



## **CITIES & BUILDINGS**

Improving the liveability of urban environments with holistic and net-positive social, infrastructure and resource solutions



## **INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Working in partnerships to end poverty and ensure sustainable development for all



## **FOOD SYSTEMS**

Transforming food systems to ensure healthy, thriving and food secure communities and businesses



## **LEARNING & CHANGE**

Facilitating individual, social and organisational transformation, learning and change



## **TRANSPORT**

Providing solutions for quality transport services that maximise productivity at least cost and lowest impact



# Trends and disruptive influences

Climate extremes

Inequality

Water stress

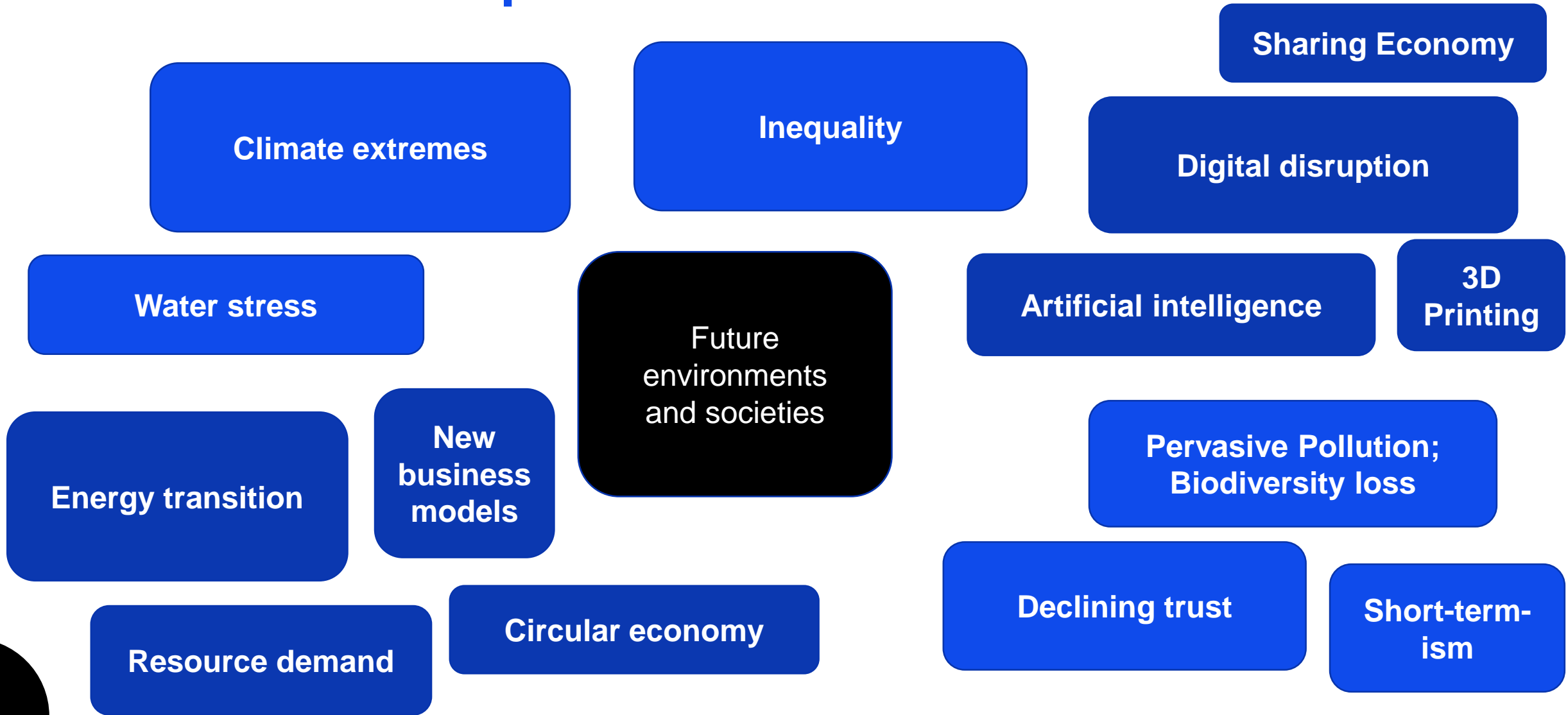
Future  
environments  
and societies

Pervasive Pollution;  
Biodiversity loss

Declining trust

Short-term-  
ism

# Trends and disruptive influences



# Resource demand to double by 2060

## Key facts and projections from the OECD Global Material Resources Outlook to 2060

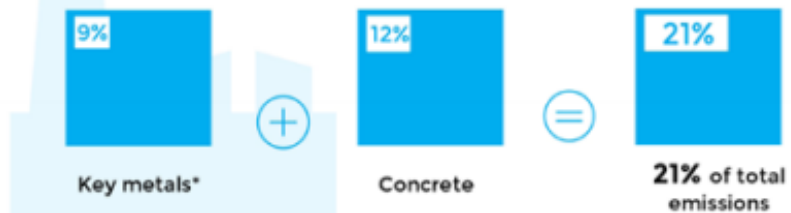
<https://www.oecd.org/environment/waste/highlights-global-material-resources-outlook-to-2060.pdf>

### Materials use increase



	2011	2060
Metals	8Gt	20Gt
Fossil fuels	14Gt	24Gt
Biomass	20Gt	37Gt
Non-metallic minerals	37Gt	86Gt

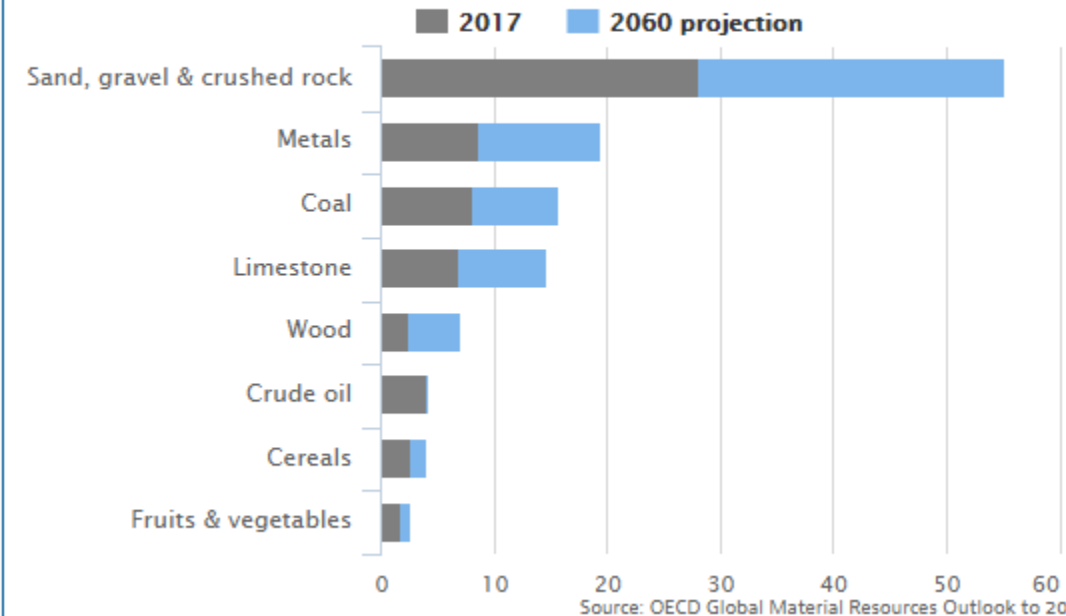
### Greenhouse gas emissions in 2060 from materials extraction and processing



\*The key metals are Al, Cu, Fe, Mn, Ni, Pb, Zn

### Construction materials dominate resource consumption

Consumption in gigatonnes



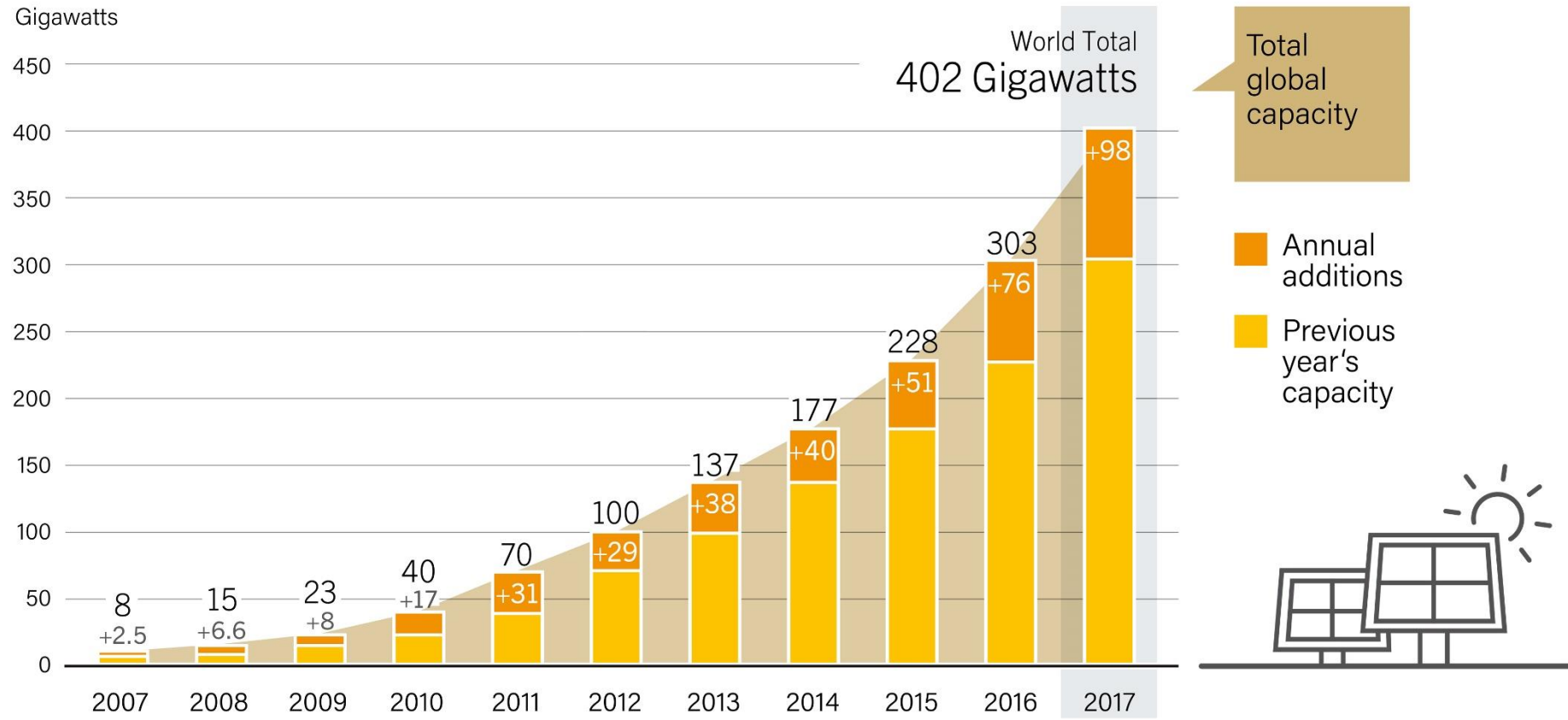
Source: OECD Global Material Resources Outlook to 2060

<http://www.oecd.org/newsroom/raw-materials-use-to-double-by-2060-with-severe-environmental-consequences.htm>

# Solar PV:

*98 GW  
installed 2017*

Solar PV Global Capacity and Annual Additions, 2007-2017



Source: IEA PVPS



# Design for renewable energy & resource cycles

# Business renewables



[ABOUT US](#) ▼

[BRC COMMUNITY](#) ▼

[TOOLS & RESOURCES](#) ▼

[NEWS & EVENTS](#) ▼

## RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR BUSINESS, SIMPLIFIED

ACCELERATING LARGE-SCALE RENEWABLE ENERGY  
USE ACROSS AUSTRALIA



# TULIP for smart liveable cities

Sydney, Lake Macquarie



### TULIP SENSORS

Current TULIP sensors include:

- Temperature
- Humidity
- PM2.5
- Carbon Monoxide
- Ozone
- Nitrogen Dioxide
- Noise
- Pedestrian counting
- Smart asset monitoring

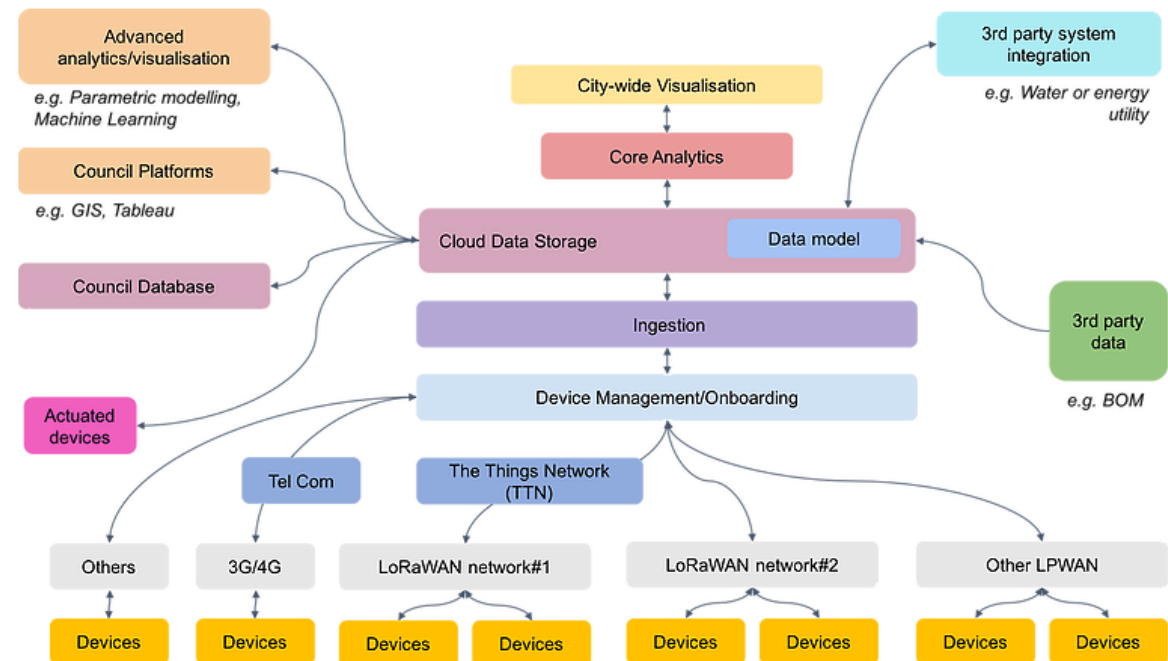
TULIP is also exploring:

- Soil moisture
- Rain
- Wind
- Storm water

The diagram shows a central LoRaWAN icon connected to several sensor categories: O<sub>3</sub> (yellow), NO<sub>2</sub> (orange), CO (purple), PM2.5 (blue), and icons for temperature (thermometer), humidity (water drop), noise (ear), and a person (pedestrian counting).



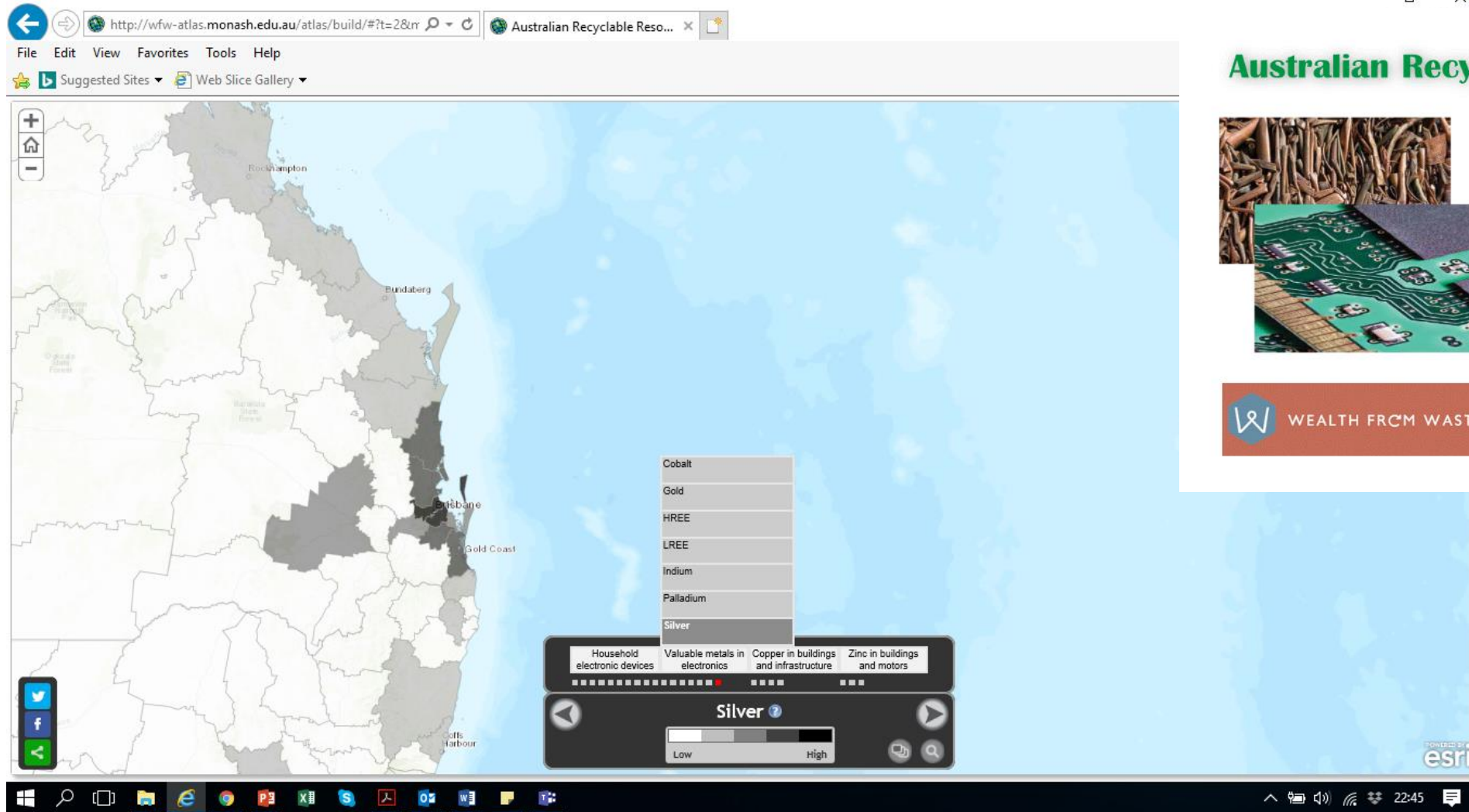
About Collaborators Media Downloads Contact



Andrew Tovey

<https://www.tulipnetwork.org/>

# Mapping stocks above ground



## Australian Recyclable Resources Atlas



The Australian Recyclable Resources Atlas presents the estimated, above-ground stocks of metal resources in Australia. As the population increases, more houses and transport infrastructure are to be built, and more consumer electronic products such as TV sets, mobile phones, tablets, computers and household appliances are to be used. These end-of-life products mostly contain high concentrations of metals and minerals, and recycling them is much more energy efficient than smelting the metals from virgin ores. The atlas aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the potentials of urban mines in Australia.



...informing  
thinking about future  
collection systems

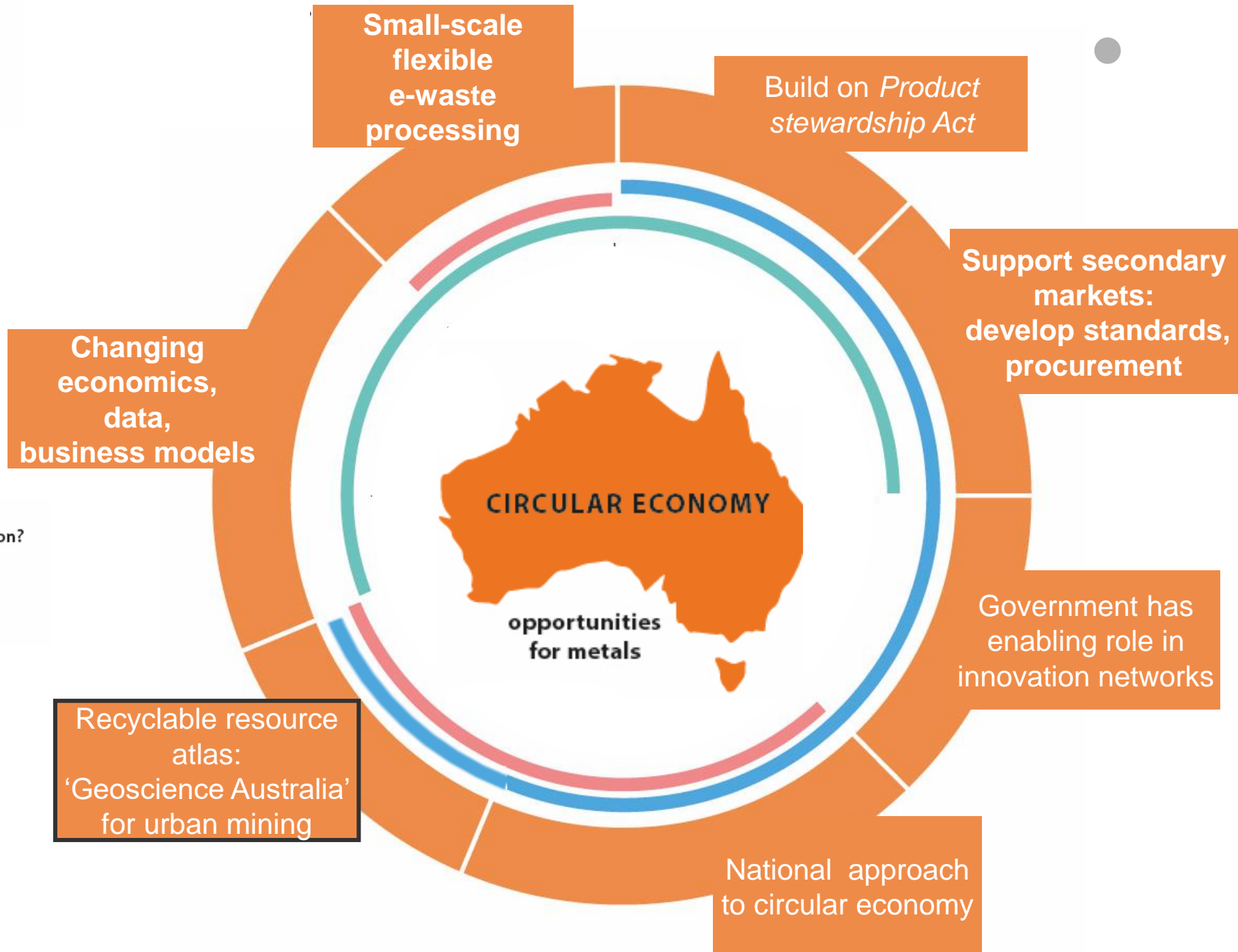
<http://wfw-atlas.monash.edu.au/atlas/build/>



www.wealthfromwaste.net

Who is best placed to take action?

- Government
- Research
- Industry



# Proposed “Future battery industries”

Cooperative  
Research  
Centre



**PROGRAM 1**  
Battery Industry Development

**PROGRAM 2**  
Battery Resources, Processing and Recycling

**PROGRAM 3**  
Battery Materials, Components, Manufacturing, Testing and Deployment



## CRC Reliable Affordable Clean Energy



INFORMATION PACK

**RACE FOR 2030**  
The Cooperative Research Centre for  
Reliable, Affordable, Clean Energy



# Circular Economy – more than recycling!

“a regenerative system in which resource input and waste, emission, and energy leakage are minimised by **slowing, closing, and narrowing material and energy loops**. This can be achieved through **long-lasting design, maintenance, repair, reuse, remanufacturing, refurbishing, and recycling**”

Journal of Cleaner Production 143 (2017) 707–708

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Journal of Cleaner Production

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jclepro](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jclepro)

Review

The Circular Economy – A new sustainability paradigm?

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ABSTRACT

While the terms Circular Economy and sustainability are increasingly gaining traction with academia, industry, and policymakers, the similarities and differences between both concepts remain ambiguous. The relationship between the concepts is not made explicit in literature, which is blurring their conceptual contours and constrains the efficacy of using the approaches in research and practice. This

# World Circular Economy Forum

*2050 Vision for natural resources and manufacturing*

W  
2018  
C  
E  
F  
18

WORLD CIRCULAR  
ECONOMY FORUM **JAPAN**



If we turn to circular economy, we could be heading towards a future in which:

- 1** Products are designed with care, longevity and their next lifecycle in mind. Used products gain value by 3R approaches, upcycling, upgrades and repairs.
- 2** Industries such as manufacturing and agriculture work in closed loops and no longer produce unnecessary by-products. Global value-chains have gone through the 4th Industrial Revolution and are optimized with digital technologies and automation. Waste as we know it, is a thing of the past. It is recognized as raw material and energy.
- 3** We have recognized the limited amount of virgin natural resources and the economy has been adapted to ecological planetary boundaries. Investments are directed into sustainable businesses.

**Table 2. Technological Developments for Industry 4.0 and the Circular Economy**

<b>Technological developments for Industry 4.0</b>
Information and communications technology
Cyber-physical systems
Network communications - internet of things (IoT)
Simulation
Advanced data analytics
Robots, augmented reality, and intelligent tools for support of human workers

<b>Ten disruptive technologies for the circular economy</b>
Mobile technology
Machine-to-machine communication
Cloud computing
Social media for business
Big data analytics
Modular design technology
Advanced recycling technology
Life and material science technology
Trace and return systems
3D Printing

Industry 4.0:  
Empowering ASEAN for  
the Circular Economy

Edited by  
Venkatesh Anbumozhi and Fukumari Kimura

# Digital provenance for responsible minerals



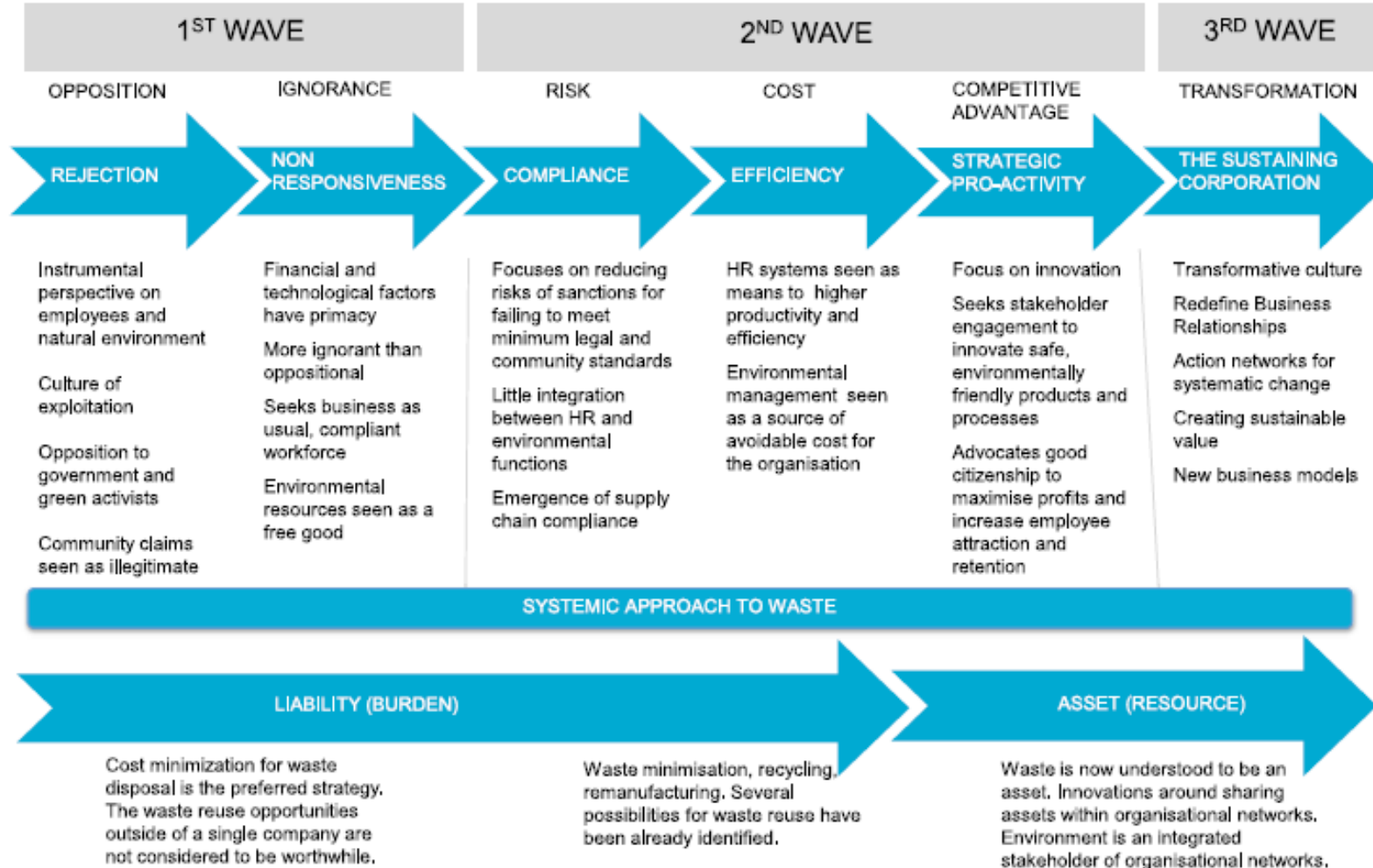
Qld Chief  
Entrepreneur





# Changing business value

Adapted From Benn et al, 2014



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DOI: 10.1002/bse.2048

SPECIAL ISSUE ARTICLE

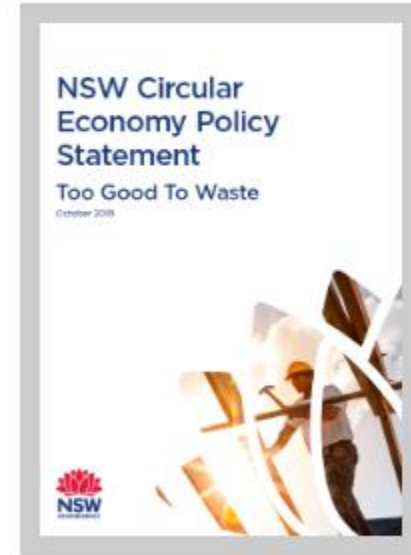
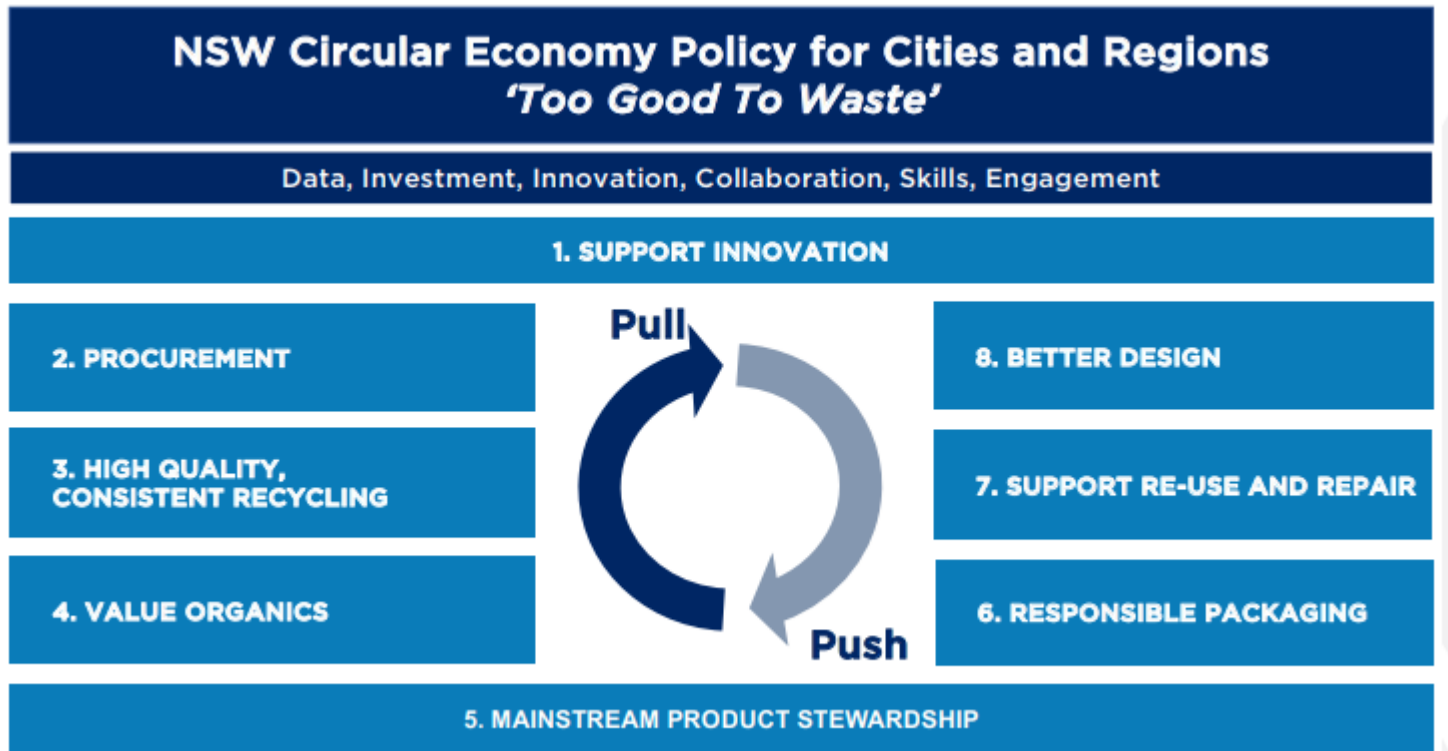
WILEY *Business Strategy and the Environment*

The place of waste: Changing business value for the circular economy

Robert Perey | Suzanne Benn | Renu Agarwal | Melissa Edwards

# Circular Economy Policy NSW

(Draft for consultation)



# Questions for the circular economy in a digital age

Climate extremes

Inequality

*Which SDGs will the digital age most inclusively enable?*

Water stress

*What digital disruption will society embrace and decline?*

*How will we balance efficiency vs. privacy?*

How will we support responsible prosperity for future societies?

Energy transition

New business models

Pervasive Pollution; Biodiversity loss

Resource security

Circular economy

Declining trust

Short-termism

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Climate extremes

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*What digital disruption will society embrace and decline?*

*How will we balance efficiency vs. privacy?*

Water stress

How will we support responsible prosperity for future societies?

Pervasive Pollution;  
Biodiversity loss

*Who holds power in a circular economy?*

*When will the clean energy, digital and circular resource transitions align?*

*How is value/risk shared?*

Declining trust

Short-termism

# Thank you

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Sustainable Futures**  
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**POWERING THE CHANGE  
TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY**

12-14 NOVEMBER 2018

*Adelaide*

## **Australian Circular Economy Conference (ACEC 2018)**

Unlocking value from waste resources through collaboration and technology

19-20 November 2018

MERCURE KOOINDAH WATERS, CENTRAL COAST

